

10,000 WAR HURT IN FIRETRAP HOSPITALS

Pressing Need of New Buildings to Cost \$30,000,000 Urged by Houston.

PATIENTS ON INCREASE

1,000 New Victims of World Conflict Become U. S. Charges Monthly.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

More than ten thousand wounded veterans of the world war are now being cared for in temporary hospitals that are of a "flimsy and inflammable construction," Secretary of the Treasury Houston today declared in a letter to Representative Langley (Ky.), chairman of the House, Public Buildings and Grounds Committee.

The Secretary urged that Congress immediately authorize a building programme calling for an expenditure of \$30,000,000. Space for 10,000 more beds is urgently needed, he said.

Mr. Houston revealed that, contrary to general belief, the number of men in Government hospitals is constantly increasing, the rate being more than 100 a month during the last year. Within a short time the Government will be caring for between 30,000 and 35,000 men, he predicted, whereas a year after the signing of the armistice the total was 5,250 patients. In the last sixteen months the total increased more than 17,000, or to 22,252.

Government facilities are inadequate for caring for two classes of veterans who are among the war's greatest sufferers, the tubercular and the shell shocked patients.

"I wish to invite your attention to the urgent needs for additional hospital facilities for disabled ex-service men and women," the Secretary wrote.

\$35,000,000 Was Asked.

"In the estimates to Congress at the present session an item was included for hospital construction and equipment for patients of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance for \$35,000,000 of which \$30,000,000 was for construction and repair and \$5,000,000 for equipment. When this item was reached in the hearings before the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives the chairman informally stated that this item involved new legislation and could not properly be included in the appropriations act until the legislation was authorized by Congress.

"The Public Health Service now has, or in the near future will have, under operation 19,579 beds. Of this number 10,347 are in hospitals of flimsy and inflammable construction, or in hospitals leased by the service under leases that will expire at certain periods after the declaration of peace, or otherwise are not to be counted upon in the programme for permanent care.

Tubercular Victims Many.

"In round numbers 10,000 beds are urgently required, of which beds for tubercular and neuropsychic patients are the most needed. These additional beds will serve only to meet the present needs and the increase expected within the next fiscal year.

"At the estimated cost of \$5,000 per bed the 10,000 beds urgently needed would require an appropriation of \$50,000,000. The excessive cost of repair of the present camp and base hospitals makes use of these hospitals unwise any longer.

"It would be far more economical to invest the excessive cost in the construction of permanent institutions, which could be maintained at a much smaller figure. Moreover, the hazard of fire is very great. There already have been a number of fires in such institutions. Approximately 200 patients at the Walter Reed Hospital, at which a fire recently occurred. Should a fire start in one of these institutions under certain conditions the entire structure would be wiped out and it is specious to hope that all of the bedridden patients could be successfully removed."

FEARS PRIZE FIGHTING WILL BE SUNDAY SPORT

Dr. Straton Also Deplores Fate of 150,000 Caddies.

After voicing a prediction that if commercial interests are permitted to have their way prize fighting will become a great Sunday sport, the Rev. Dr. John Roach Straton in a sermon last night declared: "We shall see such disgraceful things as have already been witnessed recently in Madison Square Garden from one end of America to the other." Dr. Straton defended the programme of the Lord's Day Alliance in his sermon in Calvary Baptist Church. "We are not seeking laws that will prevent a man from kissing his own wife on Sunday," the preacher said, "but we are seeking to prevent the coming to America of conditions which will lead to a man kissing some other man's wife every other day in the week."

QUITS POLICE FORCE TO BECOME PASTOR

New England Man Prepares to Enter Seminary.

CLINTON, Mass., Jan. 16.—From the police force to holy orders is the ambition of Patrolman William M. Sachse, who will resign February 1 and go to Greenfield, where, under the Rev. John B. Whitman, rector of St. James' Parish, he will work as lay reader and study for admission to an Episcopal theological seminary.

Sachse has been a soldier, policeman and Sunday school superintendent. He wants to add a "reverend" to the list. Friends in Clinton say he will do it within a short time. His pastor, the Rev. Robert R. Carmichael of the Church of the Good Shepherd, is encouraging him.

FILM TRAIN WRECKS TAME.

Boys Therefore Try to Stage Real One on New York Central.

SYRACUSE, Jan. 16.—Four boys, under arrest for attempting to wreck a New York Central train near the State Fair Grounds, told the police they were inspired by witnessing thrilling scenes of train wrecks in the movies and wanted to see a real one to-day.

They placed iron fish plates and planks on the tracks, which were discovered and removed but a few seconds before a train thundered by.

SUNDAY BURIALS BANNED; PASTORS DISLIKE CROWDS

McKeesport Preachers Win Round in Blue Law Fight—Not Overworked Themselves, but Would Help Out Cemetery Employees.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

McKEESPORT, Pa., Jan. 16.—Controversy over the "Blue Sunday" issue has become acute in McKeesport, where the Ministerial Association and many church workers advocating strict enforcement of Sabbath laws, are lined up against the liberal element, which protests against what it terms "Puritanical bigotry." Bowing to the demands of the Ministerial Association, the directors of the Richmond Cemetery have banned Sunday burials. The directors of the Versailles Cemetery Association, the largest in the city, are to take up the matter at their meeting.

Among citizens opposing abolition of Sunday funeral services and interments is Gilbert F. Myer, churchman, former County Commissioner and a director of the Versailles Cemetery. Mr. Myer's hostility prompted a committee of ministers to call on him. He told them he would consider withdrawing his opposition if it was a question of the ministers being overworked. They replied this was not the case, that their objections to Sunday funerals were based on "a desire to have a stop put to big crowds at funerals, to the bare of hands and to Sunday work by employees of cemeteries."

Mr. Myer pointed out that Sunday meetings were held in theatres by religious bodies because they afforded ministers a chance to address bigger crowds. "Why, I think crowds at funerals are a good thing," declared Myer. "There's nothing wrong with hand music that I can see. If properly regulated and confined to sacred music."

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\$20,000 IN WHISKEY SEIZED; 2 ARRESTED

Federal Agents Make Capture in Baltimore on Tip From New York.

FORGED PERMIT ALLEGED

Two Other Persons Said to Be Interested in Deal Make Their Escape.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 16.—Louis Schulman of New York and Samuel Katz of 403 Hewes street, Brooklyn, were captured last night while taking 250 cases of whiskey, valued at \$20,000, from the Pikeville distillery on trucks.

The local prohibition officers had been tipped off by New York that the liquor was obtained through the use of alleged forged withdrawal certificates purporting to have been issued by the director in New York. It was declared here that the permit was forged.

Federal agents stopped the trucks and demanded to see the removal papers. The inspection was made and Katz and Schulman were arrested and directed to drive the truck to the Custom House. At the Custom House the prisoners helped in unloading the whiskey.

It was learned that the evidence which fell into the hands of the prohibition officials is among the most important obtained here for some time. Information uncovered last night indicated that whiskey valued at many thousands of dollars had been withdrawn from Maryland bonded warehouses by means of alleged forged permits.

While the seized whiskey is valued at more than \$20,000 in bottle prices, Schulman and Katz paid \$7,750 at the distillery. It was learned that two other persons alleged to have been interested in the deal were in the city, but they escaped.

At the rate of withdrawals of whiskey from bonded warehouses in Maryland for the first half of January the supply in this State will not last through 1922, according to figures furnished by Lewis M. Milbourne, Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue. These showed that 1,883 barrels, or approximately 75,440 gallons, were taken out on permits chiefly for other States.

Attention recently was called to the fact that there was more whiskey left in bond in Maryland, proportionately, than in any other State, and it is believed by local prohibition agents that this led to the recent heavy withdrawals here.

RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 16.—Rural portions of North Carolina are described as "infested with violators of the prohibition laws" by H. G. Gulley, Federal Prohibition Director for North Carolina, in his annual report to R. S. Brame, supervising agent of the Federal prohibition agents.